

A marked-up version is shown as Exhibit A.

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Please add the Abstract, attached hereto on a separate sheet.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a cross-reference to related applications has been inserted in page 1. Amended claims 3-9, 11, 13, and 15-27 so that the multiple dependency of these dependent claims have been removed to avoid the surcharge associated therewith, and an Abstract is being provided. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Enclosure: Exhibit A and an Abstract

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Date of Deposit: December 14, 2001

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Lisa L. Vulpis

## EXHIBIT A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO  
CLAIMS 3-9, 11, 13, AND 15-17

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that, when drying the molded articles, a heated and, if necessary, oxygen-reduced or oxygen-free gas stream is passed over the molded articles.

4. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, characterized in that the molded articles are dried to an overall water content of  $\leq 1\%$  by wt.

5. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, characterized in that the molded articles are dried at temperatures of 40 to 170 °C, in particular 60 to 150 °C.

6. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, characterized in that the molded articles are dried at below their self-ignition temperature.

7. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, characterized in that the molded articles are dried within 0.2 to 12 hours, in particular within 0.5 to 6 hours.

8. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, characterized in that the carbon-bearing material is wood charcoal, wood charcoal from old timber, peat coal, fruit pits, nut shells, coal coke and/or lignitic coke.

9. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, characterized in that the carbon-bearing material used is carbonized via natural and/or synthetic thermal treatment of one or more carbon-bearing vegetable products.

11. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 10] claim 1, characterized in that one or more aggregates are added to the carbon-bearing material and/or the binding agent.

13. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 12] claim 1, characterized in that 100 %by wt. of the carbon-bearing material is milled to a grain size of < 60 µm.

15. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 14] claim 1, characterized in that the water-

[illegible]



agents, of which at least one contains water, are first homogeneously mixed with each other, and that this binding agent mixture is subsequently homogeneously mixed with the carbon-bearing material or the mixture of several carbon-bearing materials.

PKB 26. (Amended) The method according to [one or more of claims 1 to 25] claim 1, characterized in that at least one already milled carbon-bearing material is used.

27. (Amended) A shaped, activated charcoal produced with a method according to [one or several of claims 1 to 26] claim 1.

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